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WRL NEWS

Published by the War Resisters League, 5 Beekman Street, New York 10038, N.Y., U.S. branch of the War Resisters International, a pacifist organization with affiliates in 53 countries. Ralph Di Gia, Administrative Secretary; David McReynolds, Field Secretary; Jim Peck, Editor.

No. 141

FEW CALENDARS LEFT

Though WRL has sold 11,000 Peace Calendars this year and has ordered an additional 4,000, there are very few left in stock.

So, if you want one, you should send in your order without delay. The price is $1.50 apiece, $7 for 5 —postpaid. Gift cards will be inserted upon request.

DEVI PRASAD TO TOUR U.S., CANADA

Devi Prasad, general secretary of the War Resisters International and at one time an associate of Vinoba Bhave, will make a special two-month tour of the entire United States and eastern Canada in March and April.

Prasad, a graduate of Santiniketan—the university Tagore founded—and at one time art instructor at Gandhi's Centre of Basic Education at Sevegram, came on the staff of the WRI as its general secretary in 1962. While in India, where he was born, Prasad worked closely with the Gandhians, including Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan Movement. On several occasions he took part in the famous "walks" Bhave conducted in Bengal, seeking redistribution of the land.

As the general secretary Prasad has pursued a policy of opening contact with the Communist peace organizations, in order not only to seek areas of agreement, but to probe frankly the areas of disagreement. One outcome was the Warsaw conference on "Education for a World Without War," held this summer. Igal Roodenko, a WRL vice-chairman, attended the conference.

Prasad was involved with the nonviolent movement from the time when, as a student, he quit the university to join Gandhi's "1942 Quit India" campaign, until the present time when he has become one of the leading figures in the world pacifist movement. *WRL members who are interested in having Devi Prasad in their area to speak or to meet with local peace groups, should contact the national office immediately.*

The New England CNVA farm at Voluntown, Conn., scene of vandalism both last summer and fall, was identified by former District Attorney Nat Hentel as one of the four targets for firebombing by the Minutemen, an ultrarightist military organization.

ARRESTED AT INDUCTION CENTER . . .

. . . In New York on December 15 were 61 demonstrators who converged around the entrance to protest the pre-Christmas U.S. bombing of civilians in Hanoi. One apt placard, not shown in this photo, said "10 Bombing Days to Xmas." The demonstrators sang Christmas carols. Among those arrested were A. J. Muste, WRL Field Secretary David McReynolds and WRL Executive Committee Members Norma Becker and Robert Larsen.

NEW LITERATURE

UP TIGHT WITH THE DRAFT. A 12-page booklet, just issued by WRL. A strong argument for confronting the draft and fighting it rather than trying to dodge it. 10c ea., 12 for $1, 100 for $5.

EDUCATION FOR A WORLD WITHOUT WAR. A special 48-page double issue of the WRI's publication War Resistance, with full reports on the Warsaw Conference of August. Strongly recommended for all those in the education field. 50c each.

THE POLITICS OF ESCALATION. Paperback, 160 pages. Well documented material showing the dishonesty of the various "Johnson Peace Offensives." Sources are given for the facts—a valuable tool in community peace work. Special foreword to the book was written by Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., with a front-cover endorsement by John Kenneth Galbraith. 60c.

NOT A DOVE BUT NO LONGER A HAWK. A four-page reprint from the New York Times—an article by Neil Sheehan, who served a long tour of duty in Vietnam as a Times correspondent. Oddly effective because, while Sheehan does not break with U.S. policy, he is ruthlessly honest in discussing the corruption and the terrorism of the U.S. and South Vietnamese forces. 5c.

A NEW KIND OF WAR. Martha Gellhorn's reports from two weeks in Vietnam, written for the Manchester Guardian and now available as an attractive 36-page pamphlet. The human side of the story of this war. 50c.

The Institute for the Study of Nonviolence, headed by Ira Sandperl and Joan Baez, has initiated a JOURNAL, written by the students and the staff. Persons interested in receiving it should write: PO Box 5535, Carmel, Calif. 93921.

ENROLLMENT BLANK

Send to War Resisters League
5 Beekman Street, New York 38, N. Y.

WAR IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY.
I THEREFORE AM DETERMINED NOT TO SUPPORT ANY KIND OF WAR, INTERNATIONAL OR CIVIL, AND TO STRIVE FOR THE REMOVAL OF ALL THE CAUSES OR WAR.

signature

address

city *state*

occupation *age*

DEC. 10 WORLDWIDE PROTEST

The worldwide Vietnam protest on December 10, UN Human Rights Day, was barely reported in the U.S. press but could not have failed to be noticed by the U.S. government itself. There were massive demonstrations from Japan to Norway.

In the United States SANE sponsored, with the cooperation of many peace groups including the WRL, a Madison Square Garden Rally on December 8 which filled the Garden to its capacity of 20,000. On December 10 itself, WRL distributed thousands of leaflets in the downtown Manhattan area. Except for a special preface, they were exact copies of leaflets American tourists in Europe have been receiving for some months. WRL members who would like copies of this leaflet, to have some idea of what kind of approach is being taken by our European sections, should write us for as many copies as they can use.

WIN—NEW PACIFIST MAGAZINE

WIN, originally launched by the New York Workshop in Nonviolence, and now published jointly by the Workshop and CNVA, is a bi-weekly magazine constituting a sprightly new addition to pacifist literary endeavors. A sample 6-month subscription costs $2, an annual one, $5. WIN's address is 5 Beekman Street, New York, N.Y. 10038.

TAPE PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Thanks to Robert Calese WRL has been able to make available to members across the country a special tape-recording service of material that can be used at local meetings or placed on local radio stations. The tapes are of professional quality. A full listing and cost can be obtained by writing the WRL office. The job of making recordings, cutting, editing, splicing, and duplicating the tapes is long and thankless. WRL appreciates the task Calese has performed and also the work done earlier by Frank Schiavone who did the original taping of much of the material.

ACTIONS FOR PEACE

In New York, contact New York Workshop in Nonviolence, 5 Beekman St.
In Chicago, contact Chicago Workshop in Nonviolence, 1339 N. Mohawk
In San Francisco, contact WRL of Northern California, 584 Page St.
In Los Angeles, contact WRL of Los Angeles, 1046 N. Sweetzer

VIGILS FOR PEACE

Boston, Old State House, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, Post Office, Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m.-noon

Cleveland, Soldier and Sailor Monument, Saturdays, 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m.

Dayton, Ohio, 2nd & Ludlow, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Denver, Federal Bldg., Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Hartford, Old State House, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Jenkintown, Pa., northeast corner York Rd. & West Ave., Saturdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m., Thursdays, 11:15-12.15 a.m.

Laguna Beach, Calif., public library, Saturdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Louisville, Gutherie Green, Mondays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Madison, New Jersey, Madison Borough Hall, Sundays, 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m.

Media, Pa., old post office, corner State & Jackson, Thursdays, 11:15-12:15 a.m.

Miami, public library grounds, Biscayne & Flagler, Wednesdays, noon-1 p.m.

Minneapolis, University Avenue & 17th Avenue S.E., Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

New Haven, Church & Elm Streets, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

New York, Times Square, Saturdays, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

New York, WOMEN ONLY, 6th Avenue & 8th Street, Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Oberlin, Ohio, Tappan Square, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Philadelphia, south side of City Hall, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Port Chicago, Calif., waterfront and main entrances to Port Chicago, every day, 24 hours

Princeton, N. J., Washington Rd. near Prospect St., Wednesdays, 12:15-1:00 p.m. Palmer Square, Saturdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

San Francisco, Federal Building, weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Santa Barbara, Art Museum at State & Anapamu Streets, Wednesdays, noon-1:00 p.m.

Seattle, public library, 4th Avenue side, Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Stephens Point, Wisconsin, Post Office, Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Wilmington, Ohio, the carillon at Wilmington College, Wednesdays, 11.50 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Why They Chose Canada

(*Editor's Note*—In response to requests to discuss in WRLNews the position of emigrating to Canada, we are reprinting this condensation of an article by Philip Smith which appeared in the November 26 issue of WEEKEND MAGAZINE, a big-circulation Canadian publication.)

No one knows how many young Americans have come here seeking a haven from their country's Selective Service Act and the Vietnam war. There may be dozens, there may be hundreds; immigration regulations do not require them to state whether they are eligible for the draft, and they don't volunteer the information.

What sort of men choose exile? Some may well be, as the mass of their compatriots undoubtedly considers them, merely cowards and shirkers. The popular conception of the "draft dodger" is a none-too-clean beatnik hiding out in Toronto's self-consciously Bohemian Yorkville district.

But the ones I met are articulate, seemingly intelligent and genuinely troubled by their society's acceptance of what they believe to be an unjust and unforgivable war. Most of them seem to come from a middle-class, big-city background and to have some academic experience. "Guys who don't go to college don't even know you *can* come to Canada," one of them told me.

Some object to all war and killing and believe their country has become a militarist state. Others say they would have fought against Hitler but they believe the Vietnam war is wrong.

There are others who believe society has no moral right to order them to do something they believe to be wrong—and still others who challenge society's right to order them to do *anything*.

John Callender . . .

. . . a 24-year-old from Connecticut now living in Montreal, admits to being an anarchist—"if you have to put a label on me." Anarchism today, apparently, is not what it was. Clean-cut and handsome, with his long sideburns the only outward sign of his non-conformity, Callender wears no beard and carries no bombs. But he believes "I am the judge of what I should do and what I should be."

Until last July, he and his wife lived on an anarchist communal farm in the state of Washington. After the crops were in they drove home for a visit and discovered a notice ordering Callender to report for induction into the army on Aug. 10.

"We had already decided the time had come to leave the U.S., because we couldn't function as persons under such a government and in such a community," he says. As a pacifist, he naturally opposes the Vietnam war; but he also objects to the "centralized power system" in the U.S., and "this frenzied mania that Americans are brought up to believe, that we are the only ones who are right, and that we can slaughter people or undermine their economies and get away with it because it is for the good of the state."

Callender is now working as a cataloguing clerk at Sir George Williams University during the day and continuing his studies for his B.A. there at night. His wife has a job as a librarian.

"We've found people here sympathetic," says Callender. "Even those who are in favor of the Vietnam war have not been critical of our position. This takes more open-mindedness than you have in the States. It's a healthier and friendlier place to live."

Tom Hathaway . . .

. . . is a tall, bespectacled, 22-year-old student of the piano at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, who wears beat-up sweaters and jeans with all the elegant assurance of a proper Bostonian, which he is—or would be, if he had not decided to become a Canadian because of the draft.

Hathaway describes himself as apolitical—"I don't care anything about politics"—but he believes the Vietnam war is "insane." He says: "I wouldn't kill anybody, and I don't like the idea of compulsory service anyway. It's like some guy coming to me and saying, 'Help me dig this ditch—it's your sewer.'

"The military is a very ugly institution. A uniform is a very destructive thing to put on, destructive to yourself and to other people. It sets you apart. I find it hard to see why I should do something just because somebody tells me to, particularly when it's as destructive as the army."

Hathaway has been in Canada since 1963, and has had landed-immigrant status since October last year. When he was ordered to report for induction into the army last March he merely wrote to his draft board saying he had no intention of doing so.

Both Callender and Hathaway are self-assured young men, aware of their nonconformity but secure in their beliefs. Some of the other young Americans who emigrate to Canada have much less confidence and are far more nervous about the consequences of their defection. For many, it is their first step outside the country of their birth. They are being helped by a variety of individuals and a few organizations.

Aid Groups

There is nothing like the "underground railway" which, in the years before the Civil War, passed along runaway slaves from southern plantations to sanctuary in Canada—not yet, anyway. But one organization that quite frankly offers assistance to draft resisters is the Student Union for Peace Action, a kind of loosely-knit new left pro-civil rights and anti-Vietnam group that grew out of the Canadian Universities Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Tony Hyde, a 27-year-old university dropout from Ottawa—he decided his English course was doing nothing to prepare him for his chosen career as a writer—is in charge of SUPA's research, information and publications project in Toronto. He has helped personally, or through his office, "about 50" young Americans who have come to Canada rather than be called up.

Hyde told me SUPA began to get requests for information about Canadian immigration regulations last winter. At first, individual replies were sent but then the stream of mail became so heavy that SUPA printed a seven-page pamphlet called Coming To Canada? Now, with reprints being made by individuals and organizations within the U.S., he estimates that about 500 copies a month are being distributed, mostly on campuses.

The pamphlet, basically a digest of the immigration regulations, points out that there is no draft in Canada and that draft evasion is not included as a crime in the extradition treaty between Canada and the U.S., so that "draft resisters" who fulfill immigration requirements are not liable to be sent home.

"We haven't done anything to encourage Americans to come here," says Hyde, "because we don't want to offend the various American peace groups, which would prefer them to stay home so that the anti-war movement can be built up in the States."

Another Torontonian who has helped "perhaps two dozen" young Americans to settle in here is Brewster Kneen, an American pacifist who describes himself as a "radical Christian." Kneen once served in the U.S. Navy—"I didn't know you could be a conscientious objector"—but tore up his naval reserve papers when he was accepted as an immigrant last year. He came here from England, and is national secretary of a Christian group, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, founded in England on the eve of World War I.

The Vancouver Committee to Aid American War Objectors was formed about the beginning of October with Benson Brown, a University of British Columbia mathematics instructor, as its head. Within a month it had helped about six U.S. citizens find jobs and obtain landed-immigrant status and had been in touch with about a dozen more who had been in Canada for some time.

One of the men helped by the Vancouver group—call him "Will"—is a graduate biology student from California. He didn't want to go to war, so he joined the Peace Corps to assist with a crop-research project in India. With Peace Corps assistance, he applied to his draft board for a deferment. He was turned down and told to report for induction. On the advice of the Peace Corps, he made a personal plea for reconsideration. In return, he received a second copy of the mimeographed notice ordering him to report for induction.

"The facelessnes of it and the senselessness of it gave me every reason to leave my country and come to Canada," says Will.

He and his wife got in touch with Brown's committee—"It was very comforting, when we had this feeling of fleeing, that there was somebody who could give us advice and help us. We had no one really to talk to in the States. There has been a real loss of freedom, I think."

Norman Rich and "John"

Norman Rich, a 25-year-old painter, had a successful art gallery in San Francisco when he was ordered to report for the draft. "I loaded some stuff in my truck and left," he says. He now runs a gallery in Vancouver. "I have a thing about the idea that at a certain age you are taken out of a civilized life and turned into a machine that has no choice and whose only job is to take away life.

"It wasn't really tough to leave my country. I was going to get out if Goldwater was elected. But I left a lot behind. San Francisco is big and gaudy, like a carnival. I had a lot of friends. I was making a fairly decent living. But I looked it over and I had to get out."

Compared to the now-established Rich, 22-year-old "John" still has his work ahead of him. He was an English major at Ohio State University when he felt the heat from the draft. He is now working in a Vancouver warehouse, saving his money and looking forward to the day when he will be able to go back to the university.

"I made a personal decision to leave the U.S. some years ago," says John. "My draft status was 1-A when I left. I didn't ever find out if I was drafted or not. I did have a draft card once, but I haven't got one now.

"I find Canada much better than the United States. There is a different amount and quality of pressures to those found in the U.S."

The Naeve's and The Knight's

Not all the Americans who object to their country's attitude toward Vietnam are draft-age youngsters, Take Lowell and Virginia Naeve, who emigrated to Canada last year from Manchester, Vt.

The Naeves are artists: he makes films and prints, she mosaics. During World War II, Naeve served four years and three months in jail rather than join the army, and later wrote and illustrated a couple of books about his experiences.

Last year, when his elder son was 17, Naeve asked him what he wanted to do. "He had three choices," he says. "He could join the army, and I told him that was all right if it was what he wanted. Or he could go to jail, and I told him we would stand behind him and visit him if he chose that. Or we could all pack up and come to Canada."

The boy chose Canada and the Naeves now own a 140-acre farm near North Hatley, in Quebec's Eastern Township.

What sort of citizens will these draft resisters be if they remain here long enough to become Canadians? It is an interesting question and one that can only be answered by time.

I offer the following as simply a sidelight on a complicated question, an isolated example if you like but one that shows draft dodging is no new phenomenon. On a farm at Ayer's Cliff there lives a man named Rixford Knight, a retired teacher from Vermont.

Knight, who was a U.S. pilot in World War I, brought his wife and two sons to Canada 14 years ago because he objected to the Korean War, which he considered merely a civil war between North and South Korea, and because it seemed that U.S. culture was getting too much engrossed in money—we didn't want our children brought up in that type of environment."

One son was 16 and the other was of draft age when their parents brought them to Canada. Both are today Canadian citizens, married to Canadian girls, with Canadian children. And both are respected university professors..

Complete information on immigration to Canada is contained in a 4-page pamphlet issued by the Committee to Aid American War Objectors, of Vancouver, it can be obtained for 10c from WRL.

WRL of Northern California Reports

(A condensation of an excellent 8-page pamphlet available from the WRL's San Francisco office at 584 Page St.)

WRL of Northern California was founded in December 1965 by a group of World War 2 COs and by participants in the Building Peace project. Together we represent almost every kind of activity the peace movement has undertaken.

Building Peace

Prior to the formation of WRL of Northern California, a group of people in the Bay Area peace movement began to work together on what ultimately became the WRL Building Peace project.

In an attempt to structure a useful experiment we created a series of guidelines for working with manufacturers of war goods. We chose small local firms whose major work was not related to war: firms that we could realistically hope to change.

We researched firms in the Bay Area to find out whom we were addressing. We surveyed the firms to determine if they fit our criteria. And then we began the task of going to the firms and talking to them about war. We have researched several hundred Bay Area firms and have conducted surveys with 75.

We then selected 20 firms and have talked extensively with the owners. Liberals were frequently harder to deal with than conservatives, excluding those conservatives that saw communists under their beds. The owner of the one firm that has agreed, thus far, to no longer do defense work, was a conservative in the Whig tradition. That firm employs 100 people and makes communications hardware.

We have selected two firms for the development of a concentrated campaign, which we have just begun. We have not concluded any phase of the project, and surveys and interviews are still being conducted as a way of finding new firms, and as a training process for new people.

Institute for Social Change

As a result of the Building Peace project and of our discussions around effecting change and working to construct a non-war system, we have begun to expand our activities, and we are now working for change in several areas.

Because we want to work at making education relevant to social needs and the problem of war, some of us have participated in the Experimental College at San Francisco State College. The Experimental College is attempting to demonstrate that students can change their environment if they know what they want to do. This year we participaed in the formation of the Institute for Social Change within the Experimental College.

There are over 1,000 students in the Experimental College this term. Within the Institute, there are 10 courses and about 150-200 participants. We are conducting a seminar with student and faculty leaders in an effort to determine the appropriate role of an educational institution in relation to peace. It is likely that the college will act upon whatever is decided by the seminar and its concluding campus-wide conference.

We are working with a team of some of the best student organizers in the area to begin the long job of attempting the same changes at the University of California at Berkeley as at San Francisco State.

Conscientious Objection

A committee to work on Conscientious Objection has grown out of the original project committee. The Campus WRL at SF State is aiming toward persuading 10% of the male students to the CO position this year in the belief that if you can't do it there, you can't do it anywhere. There is a project directed toward high school students which seeks as a minimum to inform all students in San Francisco of their right to the CO position, and of their responsibility to consider it.

The committee is directing its efforts toward informing the student of his rights as a CO, and toward changing the derogatory aspect of the CO image. The committee is using established and sympathetic school organizations to advertise the CO position within the schools and among the students. It is individually contacting counsellors, faculty members and parents discussing with each his responsibility in this area. The people working on conscientious objection are applying the same techniques as the Building Peace project in learning how to persuade people to the CO position.

Tax Refusal

As one of its initial programs last year, a committee of the WRL launched a rudimentary tax refusal campaign. War tax refusal was seen as a way in which conscientious objection to war and a withdrawal of support from it could be extended to many more people than men of draft age. Emphasis was placed on the Vietnam war in particular although the campaign called for withdrawal of support from all wars.

To publicly launch the campaign in the Bay Area a meeting of 300 was held in early March in San Francisco to inform people of the tax refusal positions and ways of going about implementing them. It also included a challenge to the effectiveness of tax refusal as a protest technique by the noted attorney Francis Heisler. Out of this meeting grew an autonomous group, Taxpayers Against War, composed of people who intend to file a claim for refund of taxes collected for war and to sue the government when the claims are denied. At present, approximately 110 people are known to have filed such a claim. Twenty-three have received rejections and are ready to begin a suit sometime this fall. While WRL has not sponsored this action, it has informed its members of it and worked in close coordination and support of the group. In preparation for 1967 a committee is meeting to plan a more extensive tax refusal campaign.

Conclusion

In eight months WRL has become one of the biggest peace organizations in California. There are over 75 people working on a continuing weekly basis on the projects mentioned above. Perhaps our most significant development is the people who are working, each of whom is working in a way that is significant to him, that is part of building a non-war system, and it is something we are all learning from. We feel we have just begun, that the number of people working will double in three months. The League has become a place for serious radicals to work, and to learn.

WRL of Los Angeles Reports

by Paul Encimer

On July 4 the Peace Action Council, a loose coalition of local peace groups, mounted a sizable protest at the Coliseum in conjunction with the Governor's Conference. On Hiroshima Day, the Council conducted a demonstration at the Federal Building which drew several thousand participants. (Six years ago eight persons commemorated the ocassion.) WRL-LA sent a large contingent to both demonstrations.

The failure in September of both Premier Ky and his "associate," the President of the United States, to show up in Southern California prevented what would have been another major demonstration.

In day-to-day action, WRL-LA has been busy counseling hundreds of draft age men. At the height of the draft confusion last spring, we were counseling 2 to 3 men a day. We have placed a continuous ad in the *Free Press*, offering draft counseling services.

Tax Protest is the subject of another continuous ad. It encompasses federal phone tax refusal as well as income tax refusal. Our circular against the phone tax has had a surprising response even though it was addressed to only a portion of our mailing list. WRL-Northern California had sent us its list of tax refusers, twenty of whom live in Southern California. With the help of some of these veteran tax refusers we hope to mobilize a sizable protest on this issue by April 15.

However, the telephone tax campaign will continue beyond that date. Persons who are thwarted by withholding, etc., in income tax refusal find it more possible to take part in phone tax refusal. Through this protest, we hope to encourage individuals to initiate leafleting and establish contacts.

We will be repeating in 1967 our Easter Vigil at the Hollywood Bowl. It was a great success last year, coming at a time and place guaranteed to make the greatest impression in this area.

Individual WRL members have been active in Southern Californians for New Politics. Three have been elected to the executive board. This organization, along with PAC was involved in an interesting project which failed—a proposed 20-day hunger strike in front of the White House, culminating in a call for a general strike on Jan. 4.

WRL-LA is working also with a number of other pacifists on a community action project, which is in the very formative stages but which transcends the Vietnam war.

Stan Kohls, secretary of WRL-LA, has filled speaking engagements all over Southern California. They have ranged from local church groups to the Joe Pyne radio and TV shows (see story in column 3). These speaking engagements, together with our various campus tables, have been responsible for much of our increase in membership. Our local mailing list now stands at over 600.

WRL-LA probably will continue this year as a "shoestring" enterprise—with volunteer workers, an apartment that doubles as an office and a ditto machine operating with donated materials. But, with the increase in membership and the necessities of sustained protest action, WRL-LA will have to come up with a few additional "shoestrings' 'to keep pace with its growth. *WRL-LA is located at 1046 N. Sweetzer.*

EX-GI INFLUENCED BY WRLer WANTS TO WRITE SERVICEMEN'S PAPER, TOO

"Almost a year ago, I read an article in the OVERSEAS WEEKLY (a servicemen's publication) sent to the editor by a conscientious objector," Raymond Scroke of Dunkirk, New York, recently wrote WRL Field Secretary David McReynolds. "The article was by you.

"I was in the military service in Germany at the time. Many other GIs read the same article. Some disliked the basis of your belief, while others like myself admired your principles.

"I wish to write to the editor of the OVERSEAS WEEKLY keeping in mind the servicemen I could possibly help as you helped me. Could you send me the address of the editor? Right now I am getting a few of the students here interested in a program for conscientious objectors in this area."

TELEPHONE TAX REFUSAL— FROM SEATTLE TO TAMPA

From Seattle, Washington, to Tampa, Florida, the telephone tax refusal campaign is taking hold.

From Seattle, Sue Gottfried, WRLer, writes: "An independent telephone tax refusers group has been formed. To date we are aware of 56 local residents who have taken the position. The protest had coverage in the mass media."

Charles Darby, organizer of War Resisters of Tampa, a local group which has enrolled a number of persons in WRL, writes: "We have formed a committee to work on the telephone tax campaign. Enclosed is $7 of our first $10 contribution for 1000 copies of the leaflet "Hang Up on War" which we plan to send to church members, college professors and liberals in the area." *Leaflets are available from WRL at $1 per 100, $7 per 1000.*

TV COMMENTATOR'S THREAT TO WRLer DRAWS WIDE PROTEST

Joe Pyne's threat on his January 1 TV program to bar Stanley Kohls, southern California WRL leader, from obtaining a teaching position in the Los Angeles area, has drawn widespread protest. Kohls plans to start teaching February 6 at a public school near Watts.

"It seems to us that no television performer should be allowed to affect the employment of another individual, and what's more, to promise to do so publicly," Betty and Louis Zemel of Weston, Connecticut, wrote to WNEW, the Daily News station which telecasted the west coast television program in New York.

While the threat to bar Kohls from his profession was the low spot of the program, it was not the only objectionable feature. "I find it difficult to beileve that Joe Pyne's position gives him license to call someone a liar, falsely accuse him of equating the U.S. government with Naziism, suggest to him that he commit suicide and wish for him that in the event of nuclear war he be found directly in the path of a falling bomb," wrote Ester Ross of New York City in her letter to WNEW.

Most of the protest letters of which WRL received copies, made a point of commending Kohls' conduct on the program. Dennis Reichard of Ithaca, N.Y. wrote Kohls: "Sitting with several friends, some openly hostile to your views, I noticed that they were extremely impressed by your actions and attempts to explain logically a point of view you hold in high esteem. Perhaps it is through gentle, constrained and sympathetic actions, letting so-called 'Americans' vent their venemous attacks on us, that a more decent and loving type of Americans *will* evolve. I believe that you gave a fine account of yourself and your philosophy."

Kohls, himself, commented: "When Pyne invited me to be on his show, I knew I'd be "wiped-out" and "whipped," but I felt that if nonviolence has any validity, it must also have validity when applied to the Pyne type. At least, WRL was on TV from coast to coast. I have received a number of letters from local persons interested in participating in WRL activities and even a couple of new members.

"I also have a letter from George Lincoln Rockwell telling me that when he takes over, he personally will stuff me into a gas chamber. He offered me, however, my choice of gas scents; heliotrope, lavender or lilly of the valley. I requested gefuelte fish-scented gas."